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REPLACED BY  
ART 34 AMDT

- 60 -  
CLAIMS

1. A protein having an amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2 or NO: 4.
2. A protein having an amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2, in which one or more amino acids are replaced, deleted, inserted and/or added, but an amino acid sequence ranging from 394-position to 532-position in SEQ ID NO: 2 is contained.
3. A protein having an amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 4, in which one or more amino acids are replaced, deleted, inserted and/or added, but an amino acid sequence ranging from 396-position to 534-position in SEQ ID NO: 4 is contained.
4. A protein having an amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2 or No.4, in which one or more amino acids are replaced, deleted, inserted and/or added, and having a property of specifically binding to mammalian Toll-like receptor 3 and a property of inducing type I interferon production.
5. A protein having an amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2 or No.4, in which one or more amino acids are replaced, deleted, inserted and/or added, and having a property of inducing type I interferon production but abnormality in a property of specifically binding to mammalian Toll-like receptor 3.
6. A protein having an amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2 or No.4, in which one or more amino acids are

replaced, deleted, inserted and/or added, and having a property of specifically binding to mammalian Toll-like receptor 3 but abnormality in a property of inducing type I interferon production.

7. A protein as set forth in Claim 6, wherein, in the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2, at least amino acid 434 is replaced or deleted and at least part of an amino acid sequence ranging from 394-position to 532-position is contained.

8. A gene encoding the protein as set forth in one of Claims 1 to 7.

9. A gene as set forth in Claim 8, being cDNA and having, as an open reading frame, 63 to 2198 bases in a base sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1.

10. A gene as set forth in Claim 8, being cDNA and having, as an open reading frame, 66 to 2261 bases in a base sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 3.

11. A recombinant expression vector having a gene as set forth in one of Claims 8 to 10.

12. An antibody specifically binding to a protein as set forth in one of Claims 1 to 5.

13. A therapeutic agent for preventing/treating a viral infectious disease, the therapeutic agent containing, as an active ingredient, a protein as set forth in one of Claims 1 to 5.

14. A therapeutic agent for treating tumor, the therapeutic agent containing, as an active ingredient, a protein as set forth in one of Claims 1 to 5.

15. A therapeutic agent for preventing/treating a viral infectious disease, the therapeutic agent containing, as an active ingredient, a recombinant expression vector that contains a gene encoding a protein as set forth in one of Claims 1 to 5.

16. A therapeutic agent for treating tumor, the therapeutic agent containing, as an active ingredient, a recombinant expression vector that contains a gene encoding a protein as set forth in one of Claims 1 to 5.

17. A therapeutic agent for treating autoimmune disease, the therapeutic agent containing, as an active ingredient, a protein as set forth in Claim 6 or 7.

18. A therapeutic agent for treating an atopic disease, the therapeutic agent containing, as an active ingredient, a protein as set forth in Claim 6 or 7.

19. A therapeutic agent for treating autoimmune disease, the therapeutic agent containing, as an active ingredient, a recombinant expression vector that contains a gene encoding a protein as set forth in Claim 6 or 7.

20. A therapeutic agent for treating an atopic disease, the therapeutic agent containing, as an active ingredient, a recombinant expression vector that contains a gene encoding a protein as set forth in Claim 6 or 7.

21. A therapeutic agent for treating autoimmune disease, the therapeutic agent containing, as an active ingredient, an antibody that specifically binds to a protein as set forth in one of Claims 1 to 4.

22. A therapeutic agent for treating an atopic disease, the therapeutic agent containing, as an active ingredient, an antibody that specifically binds to a protein as set forth in one of Claims 1 to 4.